TOOL FOR DETECTING THE RELEASE OF ENERGY

ABSTRACT

A tool for actuating a workpiece includes a fixed member for contacting a contact surface of a workpiece and a movable member, which is supported by the fixed member for generally linear movement relative to the fixed member. The movable member is for contacting a second contact surface of the workpiece. The tool further includes a trigger mechanism for urging the movable member into engagement with the second contact surface. The trigger mechanism has stored energy therein and is adapted to apply a load to the movable member whereby the movable member moves over a first range of movement for moving the second contact surface relative the first contact surface in response to the load for actuating the workpiece. In addition, the trigger mechanism releases at least a portion of the stored energy when the movable member no longer detects a reaction force from the second contact surface to thereby move the movable member over a second range of movement in response to the release of the stored energy. The tool also includes a sensor for detecting at least the second range of movement of the movable member and generating a signal in response to the second range movement of the movable member whereby the sensor generates a signal at least when the workpiece is actuated.